

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: GTE MIDWEST INCORPORATED, CONTEL OF MINNESOTA, INC., d/b/a GTE MINNESOTA, AND NOW COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	DOCKET NO. NIA-99-23
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**ORDER APPROVING NEGOTIATED
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

(Issued November 19, 1999)

On September 29, 1999, GTE Midwest Incorporated, Contel of Minnesota, Inc., d/b/a GTE Minnesota, and NOW Communications, Inc., filed a negotiated interconnection agreement for Utilities Board (Board) review pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). The Board issued an order identifying the proceeding as Docket No. NIA-99-23 and allowing any interested party the opportunity to submit written comments supporting approval or rejection of the agreement within 30 days of the filing. No comments were filed.

Pursuant to the federal statute, the Board may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement if it finds either (1) the agreement (or a portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or (2) the implementation of the agreement (or a portion thereof) is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). Based upon the record made in this docket, the filed agreement does not discriminate

against any other carrier and is not inconsistent with the public interest and will be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The negotiated interconnection agreement filed on September 29, 1999, by GTE Midwest Incorporated, Contel of Minnesota, Inc., d/b/a GTE Minnesota, and NOW Communications, Inc., and reviewed by the Utilities Board in a proceeding identified as Docket No. NIA-99-23, is approved to be effective upon issuance of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 19th day of November, 1999.